



USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service

Indiana Crop & Weather Report

Released: October 11, 2011

Vol. 61, WC101111

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CROP REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 9

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

A week of warm, sunny days helped to bring down grain moisture levels in the major field crops and allowed farmers to get busy with harvest activities, according to the Indiana Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Corn harvest gained momentum but is still about 23 days behind last year and 10 days behind the 5-year average. Farmers also picked up the pace harvesting soybeans and are now approximately 18 days behind last year and 7 days behind average. Planted acreage of winter wheat also increased significantly and should germinate quickly with the warm temperatures and ample soil moisture.

FIELD CROPS REPORT

There were 6.7 **days suitable for field work**. Seventy-nine percent of the **corn** acreage is **mature** compared to 100 percent last year and 85 percent for the 5-year average. Twenty-one percent of the corn acreage has been **harvested**, compared to 78 percent last year and 35 percent for the 5-year average. By area, approximately 18 percent of the corn acreage has been harvested in the north, 17 percent in the central region and 36 percent in the south. **Moisture content** of harvested corn is averaging about 23 percent. **Corn condition** is rated 35 percent good to excellent.

Eighty-nine percent of the **soybean** acreage is **shedding leaves** compared to 99 percent last year and 93 percent for the 5-year average. Twenty-eight percent of the soybean acreage has been **harvested** compared with 77 percent last year and 44 percent for the 5-year average. By area, approximately 32 percent of the soybean acreage has been harvested in the north, 29 percent in the central region and 20 percent in the south. **Moisture content** of harvested soybeans is averaging about 13 percent. **Soybean condition** is rated 43 percent good to excellent.

Twenty-five percent of the **winter wheat** acreage has been **planted** compared to 48 percent last year and 33 percent for the 5-year average. Ninety-one percent of the **tobacco** crop has been **harvested** compared with 98 percent last year and 90 percent for the 5-year average.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE REPORT

Pasture condition improved and is now rated 22 percent good to excellent compared with 6 percent last year. **Livestock** were in mostly good condition with no health issues reported.

CROP PROGRESS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Avg.
Percent				
Corn Mature	79	65	100	85
Corn Harvested	21	10	78	35
Soybeans Shedding Lvs.	89	77	99	93
Soybeans Harvested	28	5	77	44
Winter Wheat Planted	25	7	48	33
Winter Wheat Emerged	5	3	7	6
Tobacco Harvested	91	80	98	90

CROP CONDITION

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					
Corn	10	16	39	30	5
Soybean	8	15	34	36	7
Pasture	10	25	43	21	1

SOIL MOISTURE & DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK

Soil Moisture	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
Percent			
Topsoil			
Very Short	3	4	59
Short	24	16	34
Adequate	71	69	7
Surplus	2	11	0
Subsoil			
Very Short	9	11	52
Short	33	33	38
Adequate	57	53	10
Surplus	1	3	0
Days Suitable	6.7	2.8	6.9

CONTACT INFORMATION

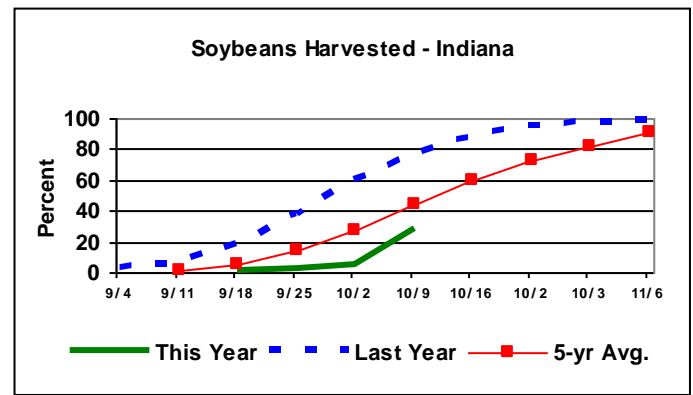
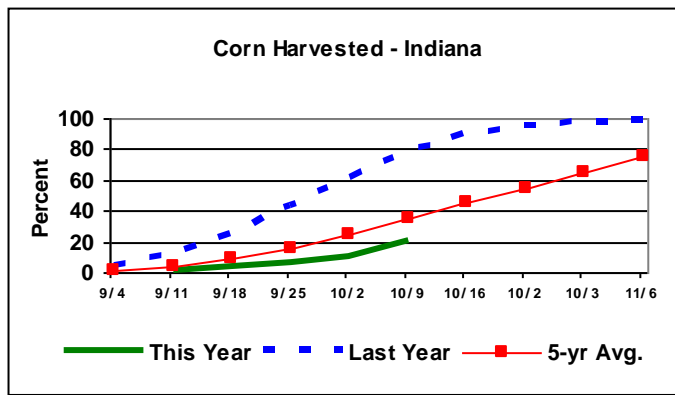
--Greg Preston, Director

--Andy Higgins, Agricultural Statistician

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http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Indiana/

Crop Progress



Other Agricultural Comments And News

Potential for Stalk Lodging in 2011 Corn Crop

Written by Peter Thomison and Pierce Paul, Ohio State University. Article appears in the C.O.R.N. Newsletter 2011-34, and can be found at: <http://corn.osu.edu/newsletters/2011/2011-34>

As farmers have started harvesting earlier planted corn fields (those typically planted in mid May or earlier, they've encountered stalk lodging especially in western counties. Some of these fields received little or no rain since late June until the last couple of weeks, so drought conditions may have contributed to some of the stalk lodging that is occurring.

For a corn plant to remain healthy and free of stalk rot, the plant must produce enough carbohydrates by photosynthesis to keep root cells and pith cells in the stalk alive and enough to meet demands for grain fill. When corn is subjected to drought stress during grainfill, photosynthetic activity is reduced. As a result, the carbohydrate levels available for the developing ear are insufficient. The corn plant responds to this situation by removing carbohydrates from the leaves, stalk, and roots to the developing ear. While this "cannibalization" process ensures a supply of carbohydrates for the developing ear, the removal of carbohydrates results in premature death of pith cells in the stalk and root tissues, which predisposes plants to root and stalk infection by fungi. As plants near maturity, this removal of nutrients from the stalk to the developing grain results in a rapid deterioration of the lower portion of corn plants in drought stressed fields with lower leaves appearing to be nitrogen stressed, brown, and/or dead.

Other plant stresses which increase the likelihood of stalk rot problems include: loss of leaf tissue due to foliar diseases (such as gray leaf spot or northern corn leaf blight), insects, or hail; injury to the root system by insects or chemicals; high levels of nitrogen in relation to potassium; compacted or saturated soils restricting root growth; and high plant populations. This year, coupled with drought-like conditions early in the season, northern corn leaf blight towards the middle and later parts of the season has contributed to the loss of green photosynthetic leaf area in some fields, increasing the potential for "cannibalization" and consequently, stalk rot problems.

Most hybrids do not begin to show stalk rot symptoms until shortly before physiological maturity. It is difficult to distinguish between stalk rots caused by different fungi because two or more fungi may be involved. Similarly, certain insects such as European corn borer often act in concert with fungal pathogens to cause stalk rot. Although a number of different fungal pathogens cause stalk rots, the three most important in Ohio are *Gibberella*, *Collectotrichum* (anthracnose), and *Fusarium*. For more information on stalk rot in corn, consult the OSU Plant Pathology web site "Ohio Field Crop Diseases" (<http://www.oardc.ohio-state.edu/ohiofieldcropdisease/>) for more details and pictures of the disease symptoms associated with these pathogens.

(continued on page 4)

Weather Information Table

Week Ending Sunday, October 9, 2011

Station	Past Week Weather Summary Data							Accumulation				
	Air						Avg	April 1, 2011 through				
	Temperature			Precip.			4 in	October 9, 2011				
							Soil	Precipitation			GDD Base 50°F	
	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Temp	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN
Northwest (1)												
Chalmers_5W	84	34	61	+3	0.00	0		31.85	+8.99	76	2989	-124
Francesville	84	35	60	+5	0.00	0		28.67	+5.46	78	2975	+124
Valparaiso_AP_I	84	37	61	+5	0.00	0		26.56	+1.51	76	3042	+198
Wanatah	84	26	57	+2	0.00	0	63	31.65	+7.52	94	2620	-89
Winamac	84	35	60	+4	0.00	0		33.33	+10.12	86	2936	+85
North Central (2)												
Plymouth	84	33	60	+4	0.00	0		30.09	+6.23	82	2957	-43
South_Bend	84	37	62	+6	0.00	0		27.61	+4.43	83	3165	+353
Young_America	85	35	60	+5	0.00	0		30.52	+8.00	68	3065	+115
Northeast (3)												
Fort_Wayne	83	40	61	+5	0.00	0		26.09	+5.47	83	3376	+425
Kendallville	82	36	60	+4	0.00	0		32.21	+10.51	108	2978	+204
West Central (4)												
Greencastle	82	33	59	-2	0.00	0		30.41	+4.36	78	3075	-262
Perrysville	87	34	62	+4	0.00	0	68	23.38	-0.95	70	3415	+315
Spencer_Ag	84	35	61	+4	0.00	0		30.36	+4.32	69	3477	+353
Terre_Haute_AFB	83	35	61	+3	0.00	0		27.50	+2.92	75	3633	+322
W_Lafayette_6NW	86	33	61	+4	0.00	0	63	32.45	+9.53	78	3237	+299
Central (5)												
Eagle_Creek_AP	81	43	62	+3	0.00	0		28.77	+5.85	75	3655	+375
Greenfield	84	37	62	+4	0.00	0		33.77	+8.73	90	3406	+251
Indianapolis_AP	83	40	64	+6	0.00	0		25.66	+2.74	71	3865	+585
Indianapolis_SE	83	35	60	+2	0.00	0		32.88	+9.47	80	3322	+47
Tipton_Ag	84	34	60	+4	0.00	0	64	32.97	+9.58	78	3154	+308
East Central (6)												
Farmland	85	35	60	+5	0.00	0	65	26.53	+3.90	85	3182	+405
New_Castle	82	32	58	+3	0.00	0		35.41	+11.43	78	3084	+237
Southwest (7)												
Evansville	85	40	64	+4	0.00	0		41.67	+18.48	62	4229	+423
Freelandville	85	37	64	+5	0.00	0		29.65	+5.51	58	3842	+421
Shoals_8S	84	31	59	+0	0.00	0		36.13	+10.08	64	3541	+223
Stendal	85	37	64	+5	0.00	0		46.16	+20.30	63	3866	+283
Vincennes_5NE	86	39	64	+5	0.00	0	68	39.53	+15.39	66	3879	+458
South Central (8)												
Leavenworth	84	37	62	+4	0.00	0		37.56	+11.36	83	3835	+541
Oolitic	84	35	60	+4	0.00	0	61	39.31	+14.36	80	3412	+248
Tell_City	84	40	63	+3	0.00	0		37.60	+11.14	65	4049	+364
Southeast (9)												
Brookville	85	34	61	+5	0.00	0		31.77	+7.64	86	3547	+545
Greensburg	84	36	62	+5	0.00	0		34.47	+10.10	74	3626	+552
Seymour	83	34	59	+2	0.00	0		34.76	+10.93	69	3396	+241

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DFN = Departure From Normal.
GDD = Growing Degree Days.
Precipitation (Rainfall or melted snow/ice) in inches.
Precipitation Days = Days with precip of .01 inch or more.
Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

For more weather information, visit www.awis.com or call 1-888-798-9955.

Potential for Stalk Lodging in 2011 Corn Crop (continued)

The presence of stalk rots in corn may not always result in stalk lodging, especially if the affected crop is harvest promptly. It's not uncommon to walk corn fields where nearly every plant is upright yet nearly every plant is also showing stalk rot symptoms! Many hybrids have excellent rind strength, which contributes to plant standability even when the internal plant tissue has rotted or started to rot. However, strong rinds will not prevent lodging if harvest is delayed and the crop is subjected to weathering, e.g. strong winds and heavy rains.

A symptom common to all stalk rots is the deterioration of the inner stalk tissues so that one or more of the inner nodes can easily be compressed when squeezing the stalk between thumb and finger.

It is possible by using this "squeeze test" to assess potential lodging if harvesting is not done promptly. The "push" test is another way to predict lodging. Push the stalks at the ear level, 6-8" from the vertical. If the stalk breaks between the ear and the lowest node, stalk rot is usually present.

To minimize losses for stalk lodging rot damage, avoid harvest delays. Identify fields that are at greatest risk and harvest these fields first. Fields which experienced late season drought stress or extensive northern leaf blight or grey leaf spot would be prime candidates for early harvest. This is not the year to allow corn to dry in the field to 15% to save on drying costs!

The INDIANA CROP & WEATHER REPORT (USPS 675-770), (ISSN43-817X) is issued weekly April through November by the USDA, NASS Indiana Field Office, 1435 Win Hentschel Blvd, Suite 110, West Lafayette, IN 47906-4151. For information on subscribing, send request to above address. POSTMASTER: Send address change to the USDA, NASS, Indiana Field Office, 1435 Win Hentschel Blvd, Suite 110, West Lafayette, IN 47906-4151.

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